

House Resolution 585

By: Representatives Drenner of the 86th, Benfield of the 85th, Henson of the 87th, Stephens of the 164th, Parrish of the 156th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending Tyler Perry and inviting "Madea in the House"; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, no one has made a more indelible imprint on black filmmaking in the past few
3 years than Tyler Perry; and
- 4 WHEREAS, his latest movie, *Madea Goes to Jail*, was No. 1 in box office receipts for
5 February, 2009, bringing in more than \$41.1 million; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Tyler Perry bought the warehouse that used to be Atlanta Stage Works in June
7 of 2006 to house Tyler Perry Studios, the first independent movie studio of its size in
8 Georgia which he, not some Hollywood studio, owns outright; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Tyler Perry moved to Atlanta in 1992 and has stated that he failed at nearly
10 everything he tried - from selling cars to writing plays - until 1998 when a gospel musical
11 he wrote, *I Know I Have Been Changed*, became a hit; and
- 12 WHEREAS, he then toured relentlessly, until his character Madea became a hugely popular
13 figure in the African American community, and he was hanging out with the likes of Oprah
14 Winfrey and Bill Cosby; and
- 15 WHEREAS, his play, *What's Done in the Dark*, which applies strong Christian messages and
16 traditional values to contemporary social values, has had a run at the Fox Theatre; and
- 17 WHEREAS, his movie, *Madea's Family Reunion*, debuted at No. 1 at the box office in
18 February of 2006, and in April of 2006, his Madea book, *Don't Make a Black Woman Take
19 Off Her Earrings*, also debuted at the top spot; and

20 WHEREAS, this talented actor, comedian, author, playwright, entrepreneur, and citizen of
21 Georgia deserves much praise and recognition for following his dreams and for all of his
22 many accomplishments.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
24 the members of this body recognize Tyler Perry for his outstanding talent and many
25 accomplishments, express their gratitude for his contributions to Atlanta and the State of
26 Georgia, and extend their sincerest best wishes for continued success.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Tyler Perry and Madea are hereby invited to appear
28 before the House of Representatives at a date and time to be fixed by the Speaker of the
29 House for the purposes of being recognized by the House and receiving an appropriate copy
30 of this resolution.